

**We are
committed
to phasing out
single-use
plastics.**

Single-use plastic alternatives for events

Council and the Victorian Government have taken action on single-use plastics.

- On 1 November 2019 the state-wide ban on lightweight bags came in to effect and applies to all businesses and organisations in Victoria.
- On 1 February 2023 the ban on problematic single-use plastic items came in to effect and applies to all businesses and organisations in Victoria.
- On 24 May 2023, at the ordinary Council meeting, the Single-use Plastic Policy (2023) was adopted. This policy prohibits the procurement, use, distribution or sale of the single-use plastic items listed in the table on the following page:
 - in Council-owned buildings, venues and sites
 - during Council-funded or Council-endorsed activities
 - as part of Council's operations, business or service delivery
 - in the promotion, planning, delivery and pack-down of any of the above.

Some of the listed items are included in the State Government single-use plastics ban and are enforced by the Environmental Protection Agency.

It is the responsibility of event organisers and 3rd party vendors to be aware of State/local policies and legislation and purchase and/or supply goods responsibly.

Council is here to support events in the transition to more sustainable practices.

**Zero
Single-use**  **PLASTIC**



Sustainable item suggestions for events

Banned items ✘

Balloons, glitter, confetti and glow sticks



Plastic Bags



Plastic and polystyrene containers, plates, bowls, trays, cutlery, stirrers and cups



Plastic Straws*



Single-use plastic water bottles*



Polystyrene packaging and bubble wrap



Cling film



Plastic packaging including soft plastic wrappers, snack packets and sachets



Plastic merchandise and giveaways

Acceptable alternatives ✔

Cloth or paper bunting, paper streamers, reusable decorations, confetti made from petals and leaves, bubble mix



Reusable or paper bags, cardboard boxes



Paper, cardboard or bamboo tableware/take away packaging or accepting BYO (Bring your own) reusable containers. Hire the **Wash Against Waste** trailer



Paper straws, reusable stainless steel or bamboo straws



Canned beverages or BYO reusable, refillable bottles. Provide a water refill station



Paper or cardboard, certified compostable fill



Aluminium foil, reusable wraps or reusable containers



Source products that come in paper or certified compostable packaging. Buy in bulk to reduce packaging



Seek plastic free options, or contact Council for suggestions

*Exemptions

Single-use plastic items, such as plastic straws, health-related products and personal protective equipment – where required to meet accessibility needs, and health and safety standards. Single-use plastic water bottles – where required to meet the duty of care requirements and refillable options are not viable, for example, in disaster and emergency situations or activities. Where all options have been explored and no single-use plastic-free option is available or viable until an alternative is found.

Need some help?

Visit our website [mrsc.vic.gov.au/single-use-plastics](https://www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/single-use-plastics) for more information and resources. Alternatively, request a consultation with our Resource Recovery team to assist with the transition or phasing out challenging items. Call (03) 5422 0333 or e-mail mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au